

Helen F. Bennett papers

S2220

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
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Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	American Red Cross.
Creator	Bennett, Helen F.
Creator	United States. Navy.
Title	Helen F. Bennett papers
Date	1888-1939
Extent	0.02 Cubic feet 2 folders
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S2220

Preferred Citation

Helen F. Bennett papers, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Historical Note

On July 4, 1915, a group of women in Washington, D.C. formed the Women's Section of the Navy League. The League hoped to band women of various philosophical backgrounds under the banner of "Patriotism, Americanism, and National Defense." Twenty-five members of the Women's Section in any town could organize a chapter, with chapters being named for a town, patriotic event or historic place, or historical character no longer living. The materials in this record group were created by the Comforts Committee of the Admiral Bunce Section of the Navy League. The function of a Comforts Committee was to knit woolen garments for men serving in the United States Navy.

Mrs. Helen F. Bennett (also known as Mrs. Robert C. Bennett) served as Chairman of the Women's Section of the Navy League of the United States for Indiana and Comforts Committee. The Indiana section of the Comforts Committee and the Navy League was comprised of women from throughout Indiana who knitted garments for men on board the battleship U.S.S. Indiana.

The first *U.S.S. Indiana* (BB-1) served throughout World War I from May, 1917 to January, 1919 as a training ship for gun crews.

Sources:

"United States Navy League, 1917-1918 (RG 137)." Connecticut State Library. Created in 2009. Accessed June 9, 2016. <http://ctstatelibrary.org/RG137.html>.

United States Navy. "U.S.S. Indiana (BB-1)." Updated July 29, 2009. Accessed June 9, 2016. <http://www.navy.mil/navydata/ships/battleships/indiana/bb1-indiana.html>.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes correspondence, clippings, articles of incorporation and other organizational documents, photographs, and postcards from the Navy Comforts Committee in Indiana and the United States, as well as documents used or created by Helen F. Bennett ranging from 1888 to 1939 regarding the Comforts Committee of the Navy League. Correspondents include the Navy League of the United States, the Secretary of the Navy, Studebaker, the *U.S.S. Indiana*, Daughters of the American Revolution, and clubs and organizations throughout the state participating in the war effort.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Helen F. Bennett on 1937/08/14.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2016/06/09 by Lauren Patton. EAD finding aid created 2016/06/09 by Lauren Patton.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Daughters of the American Revolution.
- Navy League of the United States.
- U.S.S. Indiana (Battleship : BB-1).
- United States. Navy.

Genre(s)

- Clippings
- Correspondence
- Photographs

Subject(s)

- Battleships
- Indiana--Societies and clubs
- Knitting
- Postcards
- Societies and clubs
- World War, 1914-1918
- World War, 1914-1918--War work--Indiana